

Building Examining Board of Plumbers
Inter-Department Correspondence

To: Plumbing Board Members
From: Tom Burke
Subject: Minutes of Meeting of **January 6, 2014**
Copies: Mayor David, Corporation Counsel, Gary Holmes, and File

The meeting of the Examining Board of Plumbers was held on **January 6, 2014** and was called to order at **3:45**.

Member	Present	Absent
Rudy Gaspar	x	
Frederick J. Meagher, Jr.		x
Robert Handzel		x
Art Monaco	X	
Tom Costello	X	
Advisory		
Tom Burke	X	

November meeting minutes were approved by Art Monaco. Tom Burke seconded.

Old Business:

- In regard to the introduction of a new code requirement that RPZ be required for all commercial water service connections, Tom Costello advised that council has to approve a more restrictive code and then must submit to New York State for approval regarding back flow prevention.
- In regard to the introduction of a new code requirement that RPZ be required for all commercial water service connections, the Board agreed to extend an invitation to Joseph Yanuzzi, Superintendent of the Binghamton Water Department, to attend our next meeting for a discussion about various types of residencies, such as student housing, residential or commercial and the proposed requirement for RPZ or back flow prevention. Further discussion has been tabled, pending this meeting.
- In regard to the reciprocity agreement with the City of Oneonta, for licensing, the Board has agreed that further action or discussion on this topic is contingent upon advisory from the Office of the Corporation Counsel.

New Business following from November 4th meeting:

- Tom Costello met with Teri Rennia to discuss proposed modification of the schedule of fees for building permits, including consideration of the Plumbing permit fees that were recently adopted by the City of Ithaca. Councilperson Rennia indicated that she would give this matter consideration and that she supports a review of the current fee structure. She requested additional information from the Building Supervisor, in regard to this matter.

- The prospect of third-party testing is still pending further discussion by the Joint Board. The Plumbing Inspector for the City of Binghamton, Tom Burke, will contact Westchester County in regard to their current method of administering a test by using the Prometrics service.
- The official Plumbing Board includes Tom Costello as Ex Officio.
- The Board discussed proposed candidates for new members. Following discussion of two prospective candidates, Frederick Meagher, who is a former Board member, and Thomas Burke, who is a Journeyman Plumber, the Board agreed to send a letter of recommendation to the Mayor, in this regard. Motion by Tom Costello, seconded by Art Monaco, passed 3 aye and 0 nay.
- Tom Burke presented details about his discussion with Dan Crocker, in regard to the training program for apprentices. He explained the difference between different apprentice training programs, such as those programs that are exclusively focused on Plumbing and those programs that include additional areas of expertise, such as welding and HVAC. He noted that Backflow Prevention training and certification is voluntary and occurs subsequent to achieving status as a Journeyman. Discussion on this topic will continue.

New Business from January 6th meeting:

- The Board received a letter from the Johnson City Planning Department that Michael Piccirilli and George Slavik, III are scheduled to take Part 1 of the plumbing test on January 8, 2014 and Part 2, scheduled for February 12, 2014.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 3, 2014 at 3:45 PM.

There being no further business before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Thomas F. Costello
Supervisor of Building Construction